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Message Text

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52
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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-12 ADP-00 ACDA-19 SAJ-01

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AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY
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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
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GENEVA FOR KRAUS ALSO
VIENNA FOR MBFR DELEGATION
HELSINKI FOR MPT
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INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. TUESDAY WEDNESDAY PAPERS FEATURED DOMESTIC ITEMS AND MEXICAN KIDNAPING; TUESDAY NYTIMES FRONTPAGED

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SOVIET IS SEEKING BILLION- DOLLAR LOAN IN EUROPE.

1 A. TUESDAY INSIDE PAPERS HAD NIXON TO ASK FUNDS FOR RADIO FREE EUROPE, ALSO SOME EARLIER ITEMS ON SALT, MBFR, HELSINKI. WEDNESDAY INSIDE ARE BRIEFS ON KISSINGER TALKS AND ATOMIC TESTING. SOME COMMENT.

2. SALT. LATIMES MAY 5 HAD GENEVA REUTERS REPORTING RESUMPTION OF SALT AND SPECULATION NEGOTIATORS ARE TRYING TO COMPLETE A NEW TREATY IN TIME FOR SIGNATURE NEXT MONTH WHEN BREZHNEV VISITS US, REUTER ADDING THAT 70- MINUTE SESSION WAS TWICE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF JOHNSON' S FLIGHT TO COPENHAGEN TO CONFER FOR 90 MINUTES WITH KISSINGER.

3. MBFR. LATIMES MAY 5 ALSO HAD BRUSSELS UPI REPORTING WESTERN ALLIES HAVE GIVEN IN TO SOVIET INSISTENCE THAT

HUNGARY TAKE NO ACTIVE PART IN EAST- WEST ARMS CUT TALKS, ACCORDING WESTERN DIPLOMATS WHO SAID CONCESSION MEANS THAT THE 39,000 SOVIET SOLDIERS IN HUNGARY, PLUS HUNGARY' S OWN TROOPS, WOULD BE THE ONLY FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE NOT UNDER DEBATE WHEN TALKS BEGIN PROBABLY THIS WEEK. UPI SAID THE RUSSIANS OBJECTED THAT WEST' S PROPOSAL WOULD AFFECT ALL OF ITS TROOPS ABROAD, WHILE US WOULD STILL HAVE SOLDIERS IN EUROPE IN COUNTRIES LIKE ITALY AND SPAIN. UPI REPORTED DIPLOMATS SAID THAT RUSSIANS, IN RETURN FOR WESTERN CON- CESSION, AGREED TO DROP THEIR REQUEST THAT ITALY BE IN- CLUDED IN THE TALKS.

3 A. SATURDAY WASHPOST REUTER LOCAL REPORTED SENATOR MANSFIELD SAID NIXON APPEARS TO BE SHOWING SOME FLEXIBILITY IN HIS PREVIOUSLY FIRM OPPOSITION TO REDUCTION OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN EUROPE, CITING STATE- OF- WORLD MESSAGE WHICH INDICATED TO SENATOR THERE MIGHT BE SOME GIVE IN THE RIGID POSITION OF THE ADMINISTRATION. ACCORDING REUTER, MANSFIELD INDICATED FOR FIRST TIME THAT HE MIGHT BE IN- CLINED TO AVOID PRESSING FOR LEGISLATION REQUIRING TROOP
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REDUCTION UNTIL HE SEES HOW THE TALKS WITH WARSAW COUNTRIES GO; THEY ARE SCHEDULED FOR THIS AUTUMN.

3 B. MONDAY LATIMES HAD VIENNA MORRIS REPORTING NATO BRIEFS PRESS EVERY TUESDAY FRIDAY DESPITE FACT THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE OR NOTHING TO BRIEF NEWSMEN ON, ADDING CZUZKA WASN' T PREPARED FRIDAY TO CONFIRM THE REPORTED BREAKTHROUGH ON HUNGARY CAUSED BY WESTERN CONCESSION AND CZUZKA WAS EQUALLY UNINFORMATIVE ABOUT MEETINGS ON THE WESTERN SIDE EVEN DECLINING TO SAY HOW MANY HAD TAKEN PLACE BUT HE DID SAY CZECH AMBASSADOR HAD GIVEN A COCKTAIL PARTY THE PREVIOUS NIGHT WHERE THE TWO SIDES COULD GET TOGETHER IN- FORMALLY AND THERE WOULD BE ANOTHER THIS WEEK BY WEST

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GERMAN AMBASSADOR. MORRIS SAYS WHEN CZUZKA WAS ASKED IF NEGOTIATORS WERE CLOSER THAN EVER TO A PLENARY SESSION, CZUZKA REPLIED: THERE HAS BEEN PROGRESS. MORRIS ADDS KISSINGER LAST YEAR GOT BREZHNEV TO AGREE TO TROOP REDUCTION TALKS BUT IT STILL ISN' T CLEAR WHETHER HE GOT A COMMITMENT ON PRINCIPLE OF BALANCE; SO FAR SOVIET ATTITUDE WOULD INDICATE OTHERWISE.

4. HELSINKI. SUNDAY LATIMES DON COOK HELSINKI REPORTED SPRINGTIME MOOD AMONG WESTERN DIPLOMATS BY GIVING SOME RANDOM REMARKS FROM A VARIETY OF CONVERSATIONS, ONE SAYING: WEST CAME WITH A LOT OF APPREHENSIONS BUT THINGS HAVE GONE QUITE WELL; RUSSIANS CAME HOPING FOR QUICK PROPAGANDA VICTORY BUT FOR THEM THINGS HAVE GONE BADLY; THEY HAVE FOUND THEMSELVES ISOLATED IN A BIG INTERNATIONAL GATHERING

FOR FIRST TIME-- HAVING ONLY THE SUPPORT OF THEIR OWN BLOC. ANOTHER SAID, ACCORDING COOK: RUSSIANS CAME EXPECTING THEY COULD ENLIST OR MANEUVER THE NEUTRALS BUT THEIR TACTICS HAVE IRRITATED THE SWISS AND SWEDES; THE RUSSIANS JUST DON' T KNOW HOW TO PLAY THE CONSENSUS GAME IN DEMOCRATIC DISCUSSION. COOK REPORTS A RATHER SPIRITED ATOMSPHERE OF EXHILARATION AND ACHIEVEMENT IN HELSINKI AND EXPECTS THE RUSSIANS TO AGREE TO DISCUSSION OF FREER MOVEMENT OF PEOPLES AND IDEAS AND 34 NATIONS WILL CONVERGE ON HELSINKI AT END OF JUNE WHEN THEY CAN WORK ALL NIGHT IN MIDSUMMER DAYLIGHT.

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5. TESTING. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST HAS BRIEF PARIS REUTER REPORTING AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS SAID AUSTRALIA WILL LODGE ITS COMPLAINT AGAINST FRANCE' S TESTS BEFORE ICJ THURSDAY, ON GROUND FRANCE IS INFRINGING AUSTRALIAN SOVEREIGNTY BY CAUSING RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT HARMFUL TO THE AUSTRALIAN POPULATION.

6. SOVIET UNION. WEDNESDAY PAPERS REPORT KISSINGER HAD FOURTH DAY OF INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH BREZHNEV, BUT NO INFORMATION WAS RELEASED. BRIEF IN WASHPOST MAY 8 REPORTED IZVESTIA ATTACKED AMERICAN CIRCLES OPPOSED TO BROADENED TRADE WITH RUSSIA, CITING MILITARY- INDUSTRIAL BLOC, ZIONIST ELEMENTS, AND EXTREME RIGHT AS BLOCKING DETENTE.

6 A. BALTSUN MAY 8 HAD MOSCOW SPECIAL SAYING NIXON MAY HAVE TO PAY A STIFF PRICE FOR WATERGATE IN CONCESSIONS TO SOVIET UNION IN UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS, ACCORDING TO MOSCOW DIPLOMATS WHO SAY THEY ALREADY DETECT A WEAKENING OF AMERICAN POSITIONS ON MBFR AND GROWING ANXIETY ABOUT THE LACK OF PROGRESS AT SALT TWO.

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6 B. LATIMES EDITORIAL MONDAY FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW US CAN BE COMPLETELY ACCOMMODATING TO SOVIET UNION UNLESS LATTER IS WILLING TO AMELIORATE ITS PRESENT POLICIES IN SOME IMPORTANT RESPECTS, CITING RESTRAINTS ON EMIGRATION, REFUSAL AT HELSINKI TO MAKE FREER MOVEMENT A SUBJECT FOR SUBSTANTIAL ACTION AT CSCE, AND FACT RUSSIANS HAVE ACTUALLY INCREASED THEIR MILITARY FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE, PLUS EVIDENT SOVIET FAILURE TO PRESSURE NORTH VIETNAM TO FULFILL ITS SIDE OF PEACE AGREEMENT.

6 C. WEDNESDAY JOSEPH ALSOP COLUMN SAYS ONE OF KISSINGER' S AIMS IN MOSCOW IS TO DISCOVER WHICH OF TWO CONTRADICTORY

SOVIET POLICIES TO WATCH MOST CAREFULLY -- THE WESTERN-ORIENTED POLICY AIMED AT WHOLESALE IMPORTATION OF TECH-NOLOGY, OR THE TOUGHER POLICY OF CONFRONTATION ESPECIALLY IN MIDEAST. ALSOP CITES MARSHAL GRECHKO' S NEW PURELY POLITICAL POSITION, MAKING NONSENSE OF SOVIET
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ANALYSTS' BELIEF THAT SOVIET ARMED FORCES HAVE NO POLITI-CAL ROLE.

6 D. WEDNESDAY NYTIMES COMMENTS KISSINGER VISIT TO MOSCOW MAY ADVANCE PROGRESS TOWARD SOVIET- AMERICAN DETENTE BUT MASSES ON BOTH SIDES STILL HOLD COLD WAR SUSPICIONS AND FEARS. TIMES SUGGESTS BOTH GOVERNMENTS DROP RESTRICTIONS ON ADMISSION AND ACTIVITIES OF JOURNALISTS AS QUICK WAY FOR SOVIETS AND AMERICANS TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER, WITH US STARTING BALL ROLLING BY SETTING UNILATERAL EXAMPLE. ROGERS

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